Twelfth Census of the United States.

CENSUS BULLETIN.

No. 155. WASHINGTON, D. C. April 12, 1902.

AGRICULTURE.

ALABAMA.

Hon. WILLIAM R. MERRIAM,
Director of the Census.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for publication in bulletin form, the statistics of agriculture for the state of Alabama, taken in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the act of March 3, 1899. This section requires that—

> The schedules relating to agriculture shall comprehend the following topics: Name of occupant of each farm, color of occupant, tenure, acreage, value of farm and improvements, acreage of different products, quantity and value of products, and number and value of live stock. All questions as to quantity and value of crops shall relate to the year ending December thirty-first next preceding the enumeration.

A "farm," as defined by the Twelfth Census, includes all the land, under one management, used for raising crops and pasturing live stock, with the wood lots, swamps, meadows, etc., connected therewith. It also includes the house in which the farmer resides, and all other buildings used by him in connection with his farming operations.

The farms of Alabama, June 1, 1900, numbered 223,220 and were valued at $134,618,183. Of this amount $34,452,612, or 25.6 per cent, represents the value of buildings, and $100,165,571, or 74.4 per cent, the value of land and improvements other than buildings. On the same date the value of farm implements and machinery was $8,675,900, and of live stock, $36,105,799. These values, added to that of farms, give $179,399,882, the "total value of farm property."

The products derived from domestic animals, poultry, and bees, including animals sold and animals slaughtered on farms, are referred to in this bulletin as "animal products." The total value of such products, together with the value of all crops, is termed "total value of farm products." This value for 1899 was $91,387,409, of which amount $18,196,689, or 19.9 per cent, represents the value of animal products, and $73,190,720, or 80.1 per cent, the value of crops, including forest products. The total value for 1899 exceeds that reported for 1889 by $25,147,219, or 38.0 per cent. A large part of this apparent increase is doubtless due to a more detailed enumeration in 1900 than in 1890.

The value of "net farm products" or the "gross farm income" is obtained by deducting from the "total value of farm products" the value of the products fed to live stock on the farms of the producers. In 1899 the reported value of products fed was $10,095,690, leaving $81,291,719 as the gross farm income for that year. The percentage which this amount is of the "total value of farm property" is referred to in the text of the bulletin as the "percentage of gross income upon investment." For Alabama in 1899 it was 45.3 per cent. As no reports of expenditures for taxes, interest, insurance, feed for stock, and similar items have been obtained by any census, no statement of net farm income can be given.

The statistics presented in this bulletin will be treated in greater detail in the final report on agriculture in the United States, which will be published about June 1, 1902. The present publication is designed to present a summarized advance statement for Alabama.

Very respectfully,

L. G. Powers.

Chief Statistician for Agriculture.

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AGRICULTURE IN ALABAMA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Alabama has a total land surface of 51,540 square miles, or 32,985,600 acres, of which 20,685,427 acres, or 62.7 per cent, are included in farms. The Appalachian mountain system terminates in the northern part of the state, rendering its surface rugged and broken. The southern half of the state is a low, level, plain, sloping gently from the mountain region to the Gulf and drained by numerous large rivers.

With respect to soils, the state may be divided into four great belts, namely, the cereal, mineral, cotton, and timber belts. The northern, or cereal belt, includes the valleys of the Tennessee River and its tributaries. The deep, red, calcareous soil of these valleys is especially adapted to grain production. South of this region is the mineral belt. A red or gray loam with a heavy clay subsoil is the prevailing soil of this section, much of which is not adapted to cultivation. South of the mining district is the cotton belt, comprising an area approximately one hundred miles wide on the western border and sixty miles on the eastern. It has a great variety of soils, the most productive being the deep black loam of the creek and river bottoms. In the extreme southern part of the state lies the timber belt, the soil of which, though not generally very fertile, is fairly productive when carefully cultivated.

NUMBER AND SIZE OF FARMS.

The following table shows, by decades since 1850, the number of farms, the total and average acreage, and the per cent of farm land improved.

TABLE 1.—FARMS AND FARM ACREAGE: 1850 TO 1900.

YEAR.	Number of farms.	NUMBER OF ACRES IN FARMS.				Per cent of farm land improved.
		Total.	Improved.	Unimproved.	Average.	
1900	223,220	20,685,427	8,654,991	12,030,436	92.7	41.8
1890	157,772	19,853,000	7,698,343	12,154,657	125.8	38.8
1880	135,864	18,855,334	6,375,706	12,479,628	138.8	33.8
1870	67,382	14,961,178	5,062,204	9,898,974	222.0	33.8
1860	55,128	19,104,545	6,385,724	12,718,821	346.5	33.4
1850	41,964	12,137,681	4,435,614	7,702,067	289.2	36.5

The number of farms in 1900 was over five times as great as in 1850, and 41.5 per cent greater than in 1890. The total acreage has not increased so rapidly, the gain since 1850 being but 70.4 per cent, and in the last decade but 4.2 per cent. The average size of farms in 1900 was less than one-third of what it was in 1850. This reduction in the average size and increase in the number of farms, which, of course, represents an increase in the number of farmers, is a natural accompaniment of the general agricultural development of the state. As is indicated by the increase since 1860 in the percentage of farm land improved, the cultivation of the soil is more intensive, and the utilization of available farming land is more complete.

FARM PROPERTY AND PRODUCTS.

Table 2 presents a summary of the principal statistics relating to farm property and products for each census year, beginning with 1850.

TABLE 2.—VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, AND OF PRODUCTS: 1850 TO 1900.

YEAR.	Total value of farm property.	Land, improvements, and buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.	Farm products.[1]
1900	$179,399,882	$134,618,183	$8,675,900	$36,105,799	$91,387,409
1890	146,339,765	111,051,390	4,511,645	30,776,730	66,240,190
1880	106,581,307	78,954,648	3,788,978	23,787,681	56,872,994
1870[2]	97,716,055	67,739,036	3,286,924	26,690,095	[3] 67,522,385
1860	226,669,511	175,824,622	7,483,178	43,411,711	----------
1850	91,138,999	64,323,224	5,125,663	21,690,112	----------

[1] For year preceding that designated.
[2] Values for 1870 were reported in depreciated currency. To reduce to specie basis of other figures they must be diminished one-fifth.
[3] Includes betterments and additions to live stock.

The decade 1850 to 1860 was a period of remarkable agricultural development in all of the states where cotton was a staple crop. An active demand for the fiber at profitable prices, together with the increasing supply and efficiency of slave labor, encouraged the planters to increase their capital, and especially their holdings of available land, to the greatest possible extent. The rapidity of the expansion is plainly reflected in the figures of the table. In ten years the total value of farm property increased 148.7 per cent, and the value of land, buildings, and improvements, and of live stock, more than doubled. The figures for 1870 show most strikingly the disastrous effect of the Civil War. The marked advance of the preceding decade was abruptly checked, and in 1870 the total value of the agricultural resources of the state was but little greater than twenty years before. The severity of the blow is made evident by the slowness of recovery. The gain made in the total value of farm property during the thirty years from 1870 to 1900 was 39.7 per cent less than the gain for the prosperous ten-year period between 1850 and 1860, and the present census shows that in but one class of farm property, that of implements and machinery, has the state regained, as yet, the position it occupied in 1860.

The progress made during the last decade is noteworthy. The total value of farm property increased $33,060,117, or 22.6 per cent, of which amount $23,566,793, or 71.3 per cent, represents the gain in the value of land, improvements, and buildings; $4,164,255, or 12.6 per cent, in that of implements and machinery; and $5,329,069, or 16.1 per cent, in that of live stock. The value of farm products reported for 1899 is 38.0 per cent greater than

the value reported for 1889. Part of this increase, and of that in the value of implements and machinery and live stock, is doubtless the result of a more detailed enumeration in 1900 than in previous census years.

COUNTY STATISTICS.

Table 3 gives an exhibit of general agricultural statistics by counties.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF FARMS, AND VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, JUNE 1, 1900, WITH VALUE OF PRODUCTS OF 1899 NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK, AND EXPENDITURES IN 1899 FOR LABOR AND FERTILIZERS, BY COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.	NUMBER OF FARMS.		ACRES IN FARMS.		VALUES OF FARM PROPERTY.					EXPENDITURES.	
	Total.	With buildings.	Total.	Improved.	Land and improvements (except buildings).	Buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.	Value of products not fed to live stock.	Labor.	Fertilizers.
The State	223,220	212,551	20,685,427	8,651,991	$100,165,571	$34,452,612	$8,675,900	$36,105,799	$81,291,719	$1,314,460	$2,599,290
Autauga	2,548	2,298	244,511	98,612	1,097,667	380,825	92,870	354,161	963,803	52,160	29,170
Baldwin	687	679	151,632	13,552	360,500	212,730	42,220	294,988	209,019	18,680	17,120
Barbour	4,516	4,373	452,912	224,766	1,667,689	576,049	170,610	635,219	1,772,738	83,590	73,050
Bibb	1,740	1,653	184,363	52,128	975,775	310,255	85,780	345,649	677,125	29,140	34,240
Blount	3,563	3,435	321,441	128,769	1,229,990	480,750	134,620	512,960	1,118,281	23,200	39,370
Bullock	5,005	4,881	344,763	210,491	1,992,279	512,340	196,420	656,860	1,885,305	124,180	32,440
Butler	3,249	3,046	334,719	134,763	1,322,950	507,975	107,970	485,628	1,325,370	64,080	54,500
Calhoun	2,991	2,850	222,775	100,622	1,845,790	640,510	136,170	501,277	1,023,045	36,970	29,170
Chambers	4,132	3,961	345,728	190,070	2,194,844	775,576	179,090	653,086	1,936,124	164,770	134,200
Cherokee	2,947	2,883	255,064	111,907	1,546,130	531,820	140,410	536,998	1,107,511	37,580	36,630
Chilton	2,323	2,262	221,471	80,663	950,433	442,930	90,100	376,417	807,124	35,440	38,230
Choctaw	2,883	2,784	364,605	107,684	810,980	383,520	93,410	451,583	872,960	43,610	15,800
Clarke	3,972	3,789	478,967	135,633	1,283,726	620,939	138,200	634,346	1,181,944	58,820	23,180
Clay	2,857	2,843	258,731	67,313	648,330	214,940	59,790	420,075	931,224	10,710	29,170
Cleburne	2,086	1,999	201,531	67,849	920,360	282,120	75,560	289,847	561,586	20,980	28,970
Coffee	2,849	2,750	331,975	131,093	1,219,263	398,880	106,210	463,482	1,208,032	57,820	39,760
Colbert	2,378	2,304	222,562	102,614	1,338,670	403,000	98,460	437,901	818,433	27,290	5,570
Conecuh	2,457	2,396	270,615	89,098	894,290	436,670	106,750	360,870	743,758	44,130	38,140
Coosa	2,595	2,521	299,445	96,176	857,300	362,750	96,850	391,225	916,404	30,340	27,970
Covington	1,941	1,913	260,001	67,773	682,990	310,180	57,620	336,724	644,364	17,450	42,620
Crenshaw	2,972	2,852	288,354	131,413	943,388	347,025	96,520	407,682	1,292,662	51,270	72,820
Cullman	2,998	2,912	269,794	94,116	1,183,370	574,910	122,180	431,841	903,500	16,810	35,960
Dale	3,062	2,906	337,276	148,763	1,132,100	456,471	136,100	471,520	1,405,370	51,780	78,340
Dallas	7,141	6,813	455,559	290,269	2,942,636	842,737	241,110	1,007,427	2,666,386	196,090	33,170
Dekalb	4,004	3,851	340,884	126,693	1,445,580	595,600	139,380	626,024	1,184,911	22,570	47,750
Elmore	3,421	3,210	312,585	139,323	1,493,670	592,643	139,720	513,636	1,283,423	110,760	49,690
Escambia	959	936	102,794	28,181	347,670	203,670	36,030	228,504	249,884	12,120	15,270
Etowah	2,735	2,614	235,359	99,719	1,911,010	703,390	195,410	454,387	980,428	32,800	39,120
Fayette	2,371	2,273	310,470	82,312	741,710	341,960	85,060	394,065	861,118	18,820	20,560
Franklin	2,239	2,134	275,265	80,944	887,210	230,400	92,140	376,764	634,213	8,350	16,180
Geneva	2,290	2,193	305,019	101,552	919,770	372,190	85,820	393,137	887,076	40,560	69,590
Greene	4,130	3,994	296,042	150,087	1,537,931	475,450	142,610	628,749	1,435,360	92,690	8,740
Hale	3,805	3,648	336,133	174,725	2,517,604	571,658	166,670	730,290	1,673,156	134,730	12,950
Henry	4,609	4,325	537,022	239,388	2,104,657	715,913	188,020	641,197	2,036,613	103,410	118,220
Jackson	4,244	4,144	443,592	155,052	2,919,910	728,760	175,500	946,574	1,392,840	49,750	11,740
Jefferson	3,776	3,667	287,048	103,570	2,307,740	1,026,060	193,780	766,180	1,400,839	72,050	37,040
Lamar	2,596	2,545	325,576	94,013	907,180	344,950	87,450	437,647	869,739	17,150	24,210
Lauderdale	3,210	3,118	321,513	127,490	1,891,660	506,090	142,880	558,209	1,070,682	29,280	10,830
Lawrence	3,196	3,069	291,443	136,934	1,583,040	461,050	121,540	553,623	997,057	24,710	17,070
Lee	3,551	3,404	327,933	171,187	1,827,705	718,905	154,840	519,963	1,546,138	118,500	74,340
Limestone	3,584	3,478	269,528	139,780	2,171,680	623,960	148,840	535,570	1,172,758	40,120	22,890
Lowndes	7,082	5,533	343,466	222,608	2,457,840	709,670	160,870	823,020	2,193,352	146,390	17,030
Macon	3,824	3,730	255,470	142,568	1,465,152	488,045	108,810	496,820	1,207,423	106,250	38,330
Madison	5,142	4,978	389,970	225,384	3,695,365	1,087,225	290,680	950,531	2,046,718	118,770	26,800
Marengo	5,588	5,102	432,475	226,784	2,588,001	717,645	198,160	914,775	2,071,924	182,310	13,090
Marion	2,466	2,376	324,783	79,419	652,850	274,470	81,050	391,006	694,609	15,230	23,610
Marshall	3,806	3,659	325,737	127,260	1,578,230	537,790	128,560	599,982	1,220,544	37,990	44,120
Mobile	869	854	105,137	17,464	895,130	498,890	82,490	282,648	422,850	48,020	69,710
Monroe	3,549	3,390	444,356	144,485	1,400,916	595,245	132,420	526,237	1,210,103	78,470	36,480
Montgomery	5,762	5,300	371,763	261,974	3,822,674	988,260	221,290	1,005,629	2,519,888	178,420	37,100
Morgan	3,079	2,957	272,078	120,827	1,479,760	562,540	145,140	561,237	1,018,046	28,150	16,800
Perry	4,695	4,374	374,143	182,462	2,047,803	724,400	179,470	750,847	1,790,970	164,220	13,900
Pickens	4,164	4,065	456,378	147,443	1,667,060	536,035	125,970	620,288	1,424,278	81,140	32,970
Pike	4,010	3,762	349,484	189,405	1,903,008	581,795	136,530	630,297	2,042,235	86,470	133,480
Randolph	3,582	3,428	303,472	135,715	1,308,480	442,900	136,460	473,753	1,262,309	56,290	78,420
Russell	3,181	2,984	304,511	157,423	1,505,217	502,590	142,060	494,687	1,266,805	106,480	46,120
St. Clair	2,654	2,590	243,929	93,089	1,107,470	439,180	114,140	475,915	925,616	18,190	23,620
Shelby	2,476	2,411	220,097	91,428	1,147,760	469,190	115,670	473,029	955,949	17,960	25,150
Sumter	5,140	4,938	406,501	220,071	1,991,250	632,050	164,660	932,934	1,947,694	155,760	14,230
Talladega	3,964	3,863	287,128	155,546	2,181,480	689,230	180,950	675,314	1,570,380	88,280	63,490
Tallapoosa	4,334	4,101	426,176	177,700	2,032,800	704,140	166,680	627,474	1,760,852	75,270	94,940
Tuscaloosa	3,894	3,772	410,762	145,128	1,689,034	561,255	184,740	714,026	1,523,185	86,490	49,180
Walker	2,463	2,375	287,835	74,822	924,640	386,900	98,380	452,563	774,609	19,940	14,770
Washington	1,171	1,143	208,754	27,928	626,570	240,500	51,510	366,976	335,199	21,490	20,880
Wilcox	6,011	5,616	437,629	214,166	2,090,970	678,116	178,110	874,565	2,064,347	165,230	17,310
Winston	1,642	1,594	266,493	51,905	399,080	190,500	51,490	228,931	393,506	5,990	12,080

In the last decade the number of farms increased in all counties, those showing the greatest percentages of increase being Washington, with 115.7 per cent; Baldwin, with 108.2; Talladega, with 82.7; Franklin, with 68.7; and Lawrence, with 67.0.

Comparison with the figures of the Eleventh Census, shows an increase in the acreage of farm land in two-thirds of the counties of the state, and a still more general increase in improved acreage. The counties showing decreases in both total and improved farm acreage in the last ten years are Barbour, Chambers, Lawrence, Montgomery, Sumter, and Wilcox.

The average size of farms varies from 220.7 acres in Baldwin county to 48.5 acres in Lowndes, being, as a rule, smallest for the counties having the greatest acreages of cotton.

Between 1890 and 1900 the value of farms decreased in Barbour, Blount, Clay, Dale, Hale, Lawrence, Morgan, and Wilcox counties. All other counties show increases. For the state the average value of farms is $603.07. The only county in which the average value exceeds $1,000 is Mobile; and the lowest average is in Clay county, where it is less than $300.

Every county shows a marked gain, since 1890, in the value of implements and machinery, the value in most cases having more than doubled; and every county except Blount, Limestone, and Pickens reports a gain in the capital invested in live stock.

The average expenditures per farm for labor varied greatly, being highest in the counties of the cotton belt and lowest in the northwestern counties.

The amount expended for fertilizers in 1899 was slightly greater than in 1889, and ranged in general from 5 cents to $1.00 per acre of improved land. By far the highest expenditure is shown for Mobile county—almost $4.00 per acre. In this county the few farms are subjected to a very intensive system of cultivation, while the soil, being sandy, requires more than the average amount of fertilization.

INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FARMERS IN ALABAMA.

In this bulletin those individuals who, as owners, salaried managers, or tenants, operate farms with or without the assistance of members of their household or hired laborers, are designated "farmers." All others working on farms are spoken of as "farm laborers." The number of farmers at any given time corresponds closely to the number of farms.

Since 1850 the population of Alabama has increased from 771,623 to 1,828,697, or rather more than twofold, while the number of farms has advanced from 41,964 to 223,220, or over fivefold. In every decade, except from 1880 to 1890, the rate of gain in the number of farms, and, consequently, in the number of persons operating farms as owners or tenants, has exceeded that in population.

That these facts, and those contained in Tables 4, 4*a*, and 5, which follow, may be seen in their true relation to the agricultural conditions and changes on Alabama farms, they should be studied in connection with the census statistics of occupations. Those statistics are available for 1880 and 1890, but not as yet for 1900. In 1880, the total number of males engaged in agriculture was 291,477, while in 1890 it was 288,814. In 1880, 151,565 of the total number were laborers working for wages, while in 1890 the number of laborers was but 118,798. In connection with each 1,000 farms there were, in 1880, 2,145 males employed in some capacity. Of that number, approximately 532 operated farms as owners; 468, as tenants; 1,116 were farm laborers working for wages; and 29 were employed for wages at special occupations, such as gardening, floriculture, etc. In 1890 for each 1,000 farms 1,831 males were employed, of whom 514 operated farms as owners; 486, as tenants; 753 were employed as farm laborers; and 78, at special occupations.

As showing the relative changes in the four classes of farming population, the following comparative statement is presented: Of every 1,000 males engaged in agriculture in 1880, approximately 248 operated farms as owners; 218, as tenants; 520 worked as farm laborers; and 14 worked for wages at special occupations. In 1890 there were 281 owners, 265 tenants, 411 farm laborers, and 43 special wage laborers. In 1890 the persons operating farms as owners or tenants, and the special wage laborers, constituted a larger proportion of the total number of males engaged in agriculture than they did in 1880, while the number of farm laborers in 1890 was absolutely, as well as relatively, smaller.

The total farming population varies from decade to decade approximately with the number of males engaged in agriculture. The figures given above show that, compared with the total farming population, farm owners were 13.3 per cent more numerous and tenants 21.6 per cent more numerous in 1890 than in 1880, while laborers were 20.0 per cent less numerous. The relative changes thus shown in these classes resulted in raising the average social and economic level of the farming population. Whether caused by the rise of wage laborers to farm ownership, or tenancy, as appears probable from the figures reviewed, or by additions to the classes of owners or tenants from other occupations, this elevation is a beneficent change in all its aspects.

The occupation tables for 1900 are not yet completed, but if the changes in rural population are reliable indices of the changes in the farming population proper, the movement noted for the decade from 1880 to 1890 continued with but slight modification in the last decade, and the average condition of people toiling on Alabama farms has been raised even more in the last ten years than is shown by the foregoing comparisons for the preceding decade.

FARM TENURE.

In connection with the changes noted above, attention is called to the specific changes in farm tenure shown in Tables 4, 4*a*, and 5.

Table 4 gives a comparative exhibit of farms operated by owners and tenants for 1880, 1890, and 1900. The farms

operated by tenants are subdivided into two groups designated as farms operated by "cash tenants," and farms operated by "share tenants." These groups comprise, respectively: (1) Farms operated by individuals who pay a cash rental or a stated amount of labor or farm produce; and (2) farms operated by individuals who pay as rental a share of the products.

Table 4*a* presents, for the two decades covered by Table 4, the per cent of increase in rural population, in the total number of farms, and in the number of farms of specified tenures. In Table 5 the tenure of farms for 1900 is given by race of farmer, and the farms operated by owners are subdivided into groups, designated as farms operated by "owners," "part owners," "owners and tenants," and "managers." These groups comprise, respectively: (1) Farms operated by individuals who own all the land they cultivate; (2) farms operated by individuals who own a part of the land and rent the remainder from others; (3) farms operated under the joint direction and by the united labor of two or more individuals, one owning the farm or part of it, and the other or others owning no part, but receiving for supervision or labor a share of the products; and (4) farms operated by individuals who receive for their supervision and other services a fixed salary from the owners.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF FARMS OF SPECIFIED TENURES: 1880 TO 1900.

YEAR.	Total number of farms.	NUMBER OF FARMS OPERATED BY—			PER CENT OF FARMS OPERATED BY—		
		Owners.[1]	Cash tenants.	Share tenants.	Owners.[1]	Cash tenants.	Share tenants.
1900	223,220	94,346	74,330	54,544	42.3	33.3	24.4
1890	157,772	81,141	38,931	37,700	51.4	24.7	23.9
1880	135,864	72,215	22,888	40,761	53.2	16.8	30.0

[1] Including "part owners," "owners and tenants," and "managers."

TABLE 4*a*.—PER CENT OF INCREASE IN RURAL POPULATION, IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FARMS, AND IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS OF SPECIFIED TENURES, FOR THE DECADES 1880 TO 1890 AND 1890 TO 1900, AND FOR THE TWENTY-YEAR PERIOD, 1880-1900.

PERIODS.	PER CENT OF INCREASE IN—					
	Rural population.	Total number of farms.	Number of farms operated by—			
			All owners.	All tenants.	Cash tenants.	Share tenants.
1890-1900	16.6	41.5	16.3	68.2	90.9	44.7
1880-1890	15.0	16.1	12.4	20.4	70.1	[1]7.5
1880-1900	34.1	64.3	30.6	102.5	224.8	33.8

[1] Decrease.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF FARMS OF SPECIFIED TENURES, JUNE 1, 1900, CLASSIFIED BY RACE OF FARMER.

PART 1.—NUMBER OF FARMS OF SPECIFIED TENURES.

RACE.	Total number of farms.	Owners.	Part owners.	Owners and tenants.	Managers.	Cash tenants.	Share tenants.
The State	223,220	81,046	11,557	869	874	74,330	54,544
White	129,137	69,923	8,686	753	802	18,118	30,855
Colored	94,083	11,123	2,871	116	72	56,212	23,689
Negro	94,069	11,112	2,871	116	72	56,209	23,689
Indian	14	11				3	

PART 2.—PER CENT OF FARMS OF SPECIFIED TENURES.

The State	100.0	36.3	5.2	0.4	0.4	33.3	24.4
White	100.0	54.2	6.7	0.6	0.6	14.0	23.9
Colored	100.0	11.8	3.1	0.1	0.1	59.7	25.2

Of the farms of the state, 57.9 per cent are operated by white farmers, and 42.1 per cent by colored farmers. Of the white farmers, 61.5 per cent own all or a part of the farms they operate, 37.9 per cent are tenants, and 0.6 per cent are managers. Of the colored farmers, 15.0 per cent are owners, 84.9 per cent are tenants, and 0.1 per cent are managers.

The relative number of farms rented for cash or for a share of the products is determined largely by the race of farmer and the kind of crops grown. In the counties where diversified farming prevails, and a large proportion of the farmers are white, share tenants greatly outnumber cash tenants, but in the leading cotton-growing counties, where nearly all farmers are colored, the proportion of cash tenants is greater. In the cotton-growing counties most of the white tenants rent for cash, but among colored farmers it is difficult to draw the distinguishing line very closely, as the leasing contract is often such as to make the lessee partly a cash and partly a share tenant. The reported increases in the relative number of cash tenants are confined principally to the cotton-growing counties.

No previous census has reported the number of farms operated by "part owners," "owners and tenants," or "managers," but it is believed that the number conducted by the last-named class is constantly increasing.

PROGRESS OF COLORED FARMERS.

In 1850 the number of colored farmers was practically a negligible quantity. In 1900 it was 94,083, indicating the rise of substantially that number from the status of slaves or wage laborers to that of farmers.

The Eleventh Census, in its report on "Farms and Homes," gives valuable statistics relating to the number

of colored farmers owning and renting farms, the only statistics of the kind which can be used, in connection with Table 5, to throw any light upon the changes in the status of negro farmers in the last decade. These statistics are not, it is true, strictly comparable with the statistics of farm tenure collected by the division of agriculture, but after making due allowance for variations, a careful comparison indicates that during the last decade the number of colored owners and tenants increased nearly two *and three times as fast, respectively, as the negro population.*

The status of the colored farming population of Alabama has been materially improved since emancipation, and the statistics at present available indicate more rapid progress since 1890 than in any preceding decade.

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY RACE OF FARMER AND BY TENURE.

Tables 6 and 7 present the principal statistics of farms classified by race of farmer and by tenure.

TABLE 6.—NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF FARMS, AND VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY, JUNE 1, 1900, CLASSIFIED BY RACE OF FARMER AND BY TENURE, WITH PERCENTAGES.

RACE OF FARMER, AND TENURE.	Number of farms.	NUMBER OF ACRES IN FARMS.			VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY.	
		Average.	Total.	Per cent.	Total.	Per cent.
The State	223,220	92.7	20,685,427	100.0	$179,399,882	100.0
White farmers	129,137	123.6	15,965,260	77.2	132,481,529	73.8
Colored farmers [1]	94,083	50.2	4,720,167	22.8	46,918,353	26.2
Owners	81,046	148.0	11,996,845	58.0	91,186,408	50.8
Part owners	11,557	124.0	1,432,915	6.9	11,924,095	6.7
Owners and tenants	869	156.0	135,590	0.7	1,068,297	0.6
Managers	874	413.4	361,301	1.7	4,733,717	2.6
Cash tenants	74,330	54.8	4,073,674	19.7	43,201,226	24.1
Share tenants	54,544	49.2	2,685,102	13.0	27,286,139	15.2

[1] Including 14 Indians.

TABLE 7.—AVERAGE VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, AND AVERAGE GROSS INCOME PER FARM, WITH PER CENT OF GROSS INCOME ON TOTAL INVESTMENT IN FARM PROPERTY, CLASSIFIED BY RACE OF FARMER AND BY TENURE.

RACE OF FARMER, AND TENURE.	AVERAGE VALUES PER FARM OF—					
	Farm property, June 1, 1900.				Gross income (products of 1899 not fed to live stock).	Per cent of gross income on total investment in farm property.
	Land and improvements (except buildings).	Buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.		
The State	$449	$154	$39	$162	$364	45.3
White farmers	551	219	52	204	421	41.0
Colored farmers [1]	309	65	21	104	286	57.4
Owners	582	256	61	226	440	39.2
Part owners	559	208	51	214	423	40.9
Owners and tenants	663	231	58	277	466	37.8
Managers	3,551	939	242	684	1,290	28.8
Cash tenants	354	88	24	120	323	55.7
Share tenants	303	76	20	101	278	55.5

[1] Including 14 Indians.

Many of the apparent anomalies shown in these tables are the results of conditions peculiar to cotton-growing districts where, before negro emancipation, cotton was grown on large plantations by slave labor. Immediately after emancipation the slave system gave way to one of hired labor, and this, in turn, was succeeded by a tenant system, under which the former laborers leased and cultivated land under contracts that placed both land and laborer under the supervision of the landlord or of an overseer employed by him. Where this system prevails, the best and most highly improved land of the plantations is leased in small tracts, which appear in census reports as farms of colored tenants. The lands not thus leased, consisting of large unimproved areas and small tracts of improved land, constitute the farms of the plantation owners, as reported by the census. The leased land is the more valuable per acre, has a higher per cent of improved area, and produces crops having a greater value per acre, and representing in value a greater per cent of the capital invested in farm property.

The land in the leading cotton-growing counties, the greater part of which is leased, is much more valuable than the average land in other parts of the state, and yields a greater gross income upon capital invested. Thus in the counties of Pike and Chambers the average gross incomes of farms in 1899 were $509 and $469, respectively, while in the counties of Escambia and Winston they were $261 and $240, respectively. The average gross income per acre in the former two counties was $5.84 and $5.60, and in the latter two, $2.43 and $1.48, respectively. The percentage of gross income upon farm investments for the same counties was 62.8 and 50.9, and 30.6 and 45.2, respectively. Most of the colored farmers of Alabama are found in the cotton-growing counties where agricultural conditions are as above described. Negroes constitute 35.4 per cent of the farmers in Pike county and 47.2 per cent in Chambers county, while in Escambia and Winston counties the corresponding percentages are but 19.9 and 0.1, respectively.

These facts must be borne in mind in drawing comparisons between the statistics given in Tables 6 and 7 for farms of white and colored farmers and for those of owners and tenants. The relatively high average gross income shown for farms operated by tenants and for those operated by negroes must not be construed as evidence of superior farm management. It is the natural consequence of the greater fertility and value of the land in those counties in which negroes predominate, and where the contract system of tenure is most common.

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY AREA.

Tables 8 and 9 present the principal statistics for farms classified by area.

TABLE 8.—NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF FARMS, AND VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY, JUNE 1, 1900, CLASSIFIED BY AREA, WITH PERCENTAGES.

AREA.	Number of farms.	NUMBER OF ACRES IN FARMS.			VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY.	
		Average.	Total.	Per cent.	Total.	Per cent.
The State	223,220	92.7	20,685,427	100.0	$179,399,882	100.0
Under 3 acres	768	1.9	1,482	(1)	442,087	0.2
3 to 9 acres	10,009	6.4	64,183	0.3	2,556,085	1.4
10 to 19 acres	20,866	14.2	297,155	1.4	6,243,039	3.5
20 to 49 acres	80,784	31.9	2,579,379	12.5	35,366,549	19.7
50 to 99 acres	47,745	70.6	3,369,528	16.3	35,702,655	19.9
100 to 174 acres	37,111	132.8	4,963,792	24.0	37,015,707	20.6
175 to 259 acres	12,561	209.9	2,636,784	12.8	18,561,563	10.4
260 to 499 acres	9,632	337.9	3,254,487	15.7	20,942,388	11.7
500 to 999 acres	2,788	648.7	1,808,499	8.7	12,156,274	6.8
1,000 acres and over	956	1,788.8	1,710,138	8.3	10,413,535	5.8

[1]Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

TABLE 9.—AVERAGE VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, AND AVERAGE GROSS INCOME PER FARM, WITH PER CENT OF GROSS INCOME ON TOTAL INVESTMENT IN FARM PROPERTY, CLASSIFIED BY AREA.

AREA.	AVERAGE VALUES PER FARM OF—					Per cent of gross income on total investment in farm property.
	Farm property, June 1, 1900.				Gross income (products of 1899 not fed to live stock).	
	Land and improvements (except buildings).	Buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.		
The State	$449	$154	$39	$162	$364	45.3
Under 3 acres	172	283	18	103	221	88.8
3 to 9 acres	107	97	10	41	92	86.2
10 to 19 acres	146	72	13	68	153	51.1
20 to 49 acres	238	77	21	102	267	60.9
50 to 99 acres	415	133	37	103	408	54.6
100 to 174 acres	543	196	51	207	445	44.6
175 to 259 acres	819	295	76	288	669	38.5
260 to 499 acres	1,247	439	107	381	712	32.8
500 to 999 acres	2,683	825	200	652	1,158	26.6
1,000 acres and over	7,269	1,798	457	1,369	2,316	21.3

The group of medium-sized farms, containing from 100 to 174 acres each, comprises nearly one-fourth of the total farm acreage and more than one-fifth of the total value of farm property.

For the group of farms containing less than 3 acres each, the average values given in Table 9 are relatively high, as this group contains most of the florists' establishments of the state, and a number of city dairies. It should be borne in mind that the income from these industries is determined not so much by the acreage of land used, as by the amount of capital invested in buildings and implements and by the amounts expended for labor and fertilizers.

The average gross incomes per acre for the various groups classified by area are as follows: Farms under 3 acres, $114.37; 3 to 9 acres, $14.42; 10 to 19 acres, $10.75; 20 to 49 acres, $8.35; 50 to 99 acres, $5.78; 100 to 174 acres, $3.33; 175 to 259 acres, $2.71; 260 to 499 acres, $2.11; 500 to 999 acres, $1.79; 1,000 acres and over, $1.29.

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME.

Tables 10 and 11 present the leading features of the statistics relating to farms classified by principal source of income. If the value of the hay and grain raised on any farm exceeds that of any other crop and constitutes at least 40 per cent of the total value of products not fed to live stock, the farm is classified as a hay and grain farm. If vegetables are the leading crop, constituting 40 per cent of the value of the products, it is a vegetable farm. The farms of the other groups are classified in accordance with the same general principle. "Miscellaneous" farms are those whose operators do not derive their principal income from any one class of farm products. Farms for which no income was reported are classified according to the agricultural operations upon other farms in the same locality.

TABLE 10.—NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF FARMS, AND VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY, JUNE 1, 1900, CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME, WITH PERCENTAGES.

PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME.	Number of farms.	NUMBER OF ACRES IN FARMS.			VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY.	
		Average.	Total.	Per cent.	Total.	Per cent.
The State	223,220	92.7	20,685,427	100.0	$179,399,882	100.0
Hay and grain	10,801	96.9	1,046,481	5.1	11,236,960	6.3
Vegetables	2,488	64.3	159,988	0.8	2,615,362	1.5
Fruit	401	90.7	36,369	0.2	531,282	0.3
Live stock	12,825	134.9	1,729,768	8.4	14,652,615	8.2
Dairy produce	7,504	84.8	636,323	3.1	7,116,131	4.0
Tobacco	67	141.5	9,480	(1)	83,742	(1)
Cotton	141,965	78.7	11,174,784	54.0	98,856,769	55.1
Rice	33	122.9	4,057	(1)	29,576	(1)
Sugar	137	75.4	10,329	(1)	89,073	(1)
Flowers and plants	23	4.2	96	(1)	140,877	0.1
Nursery products	22	242.4	5,333	(1)	189,387	0.1
Miscellaneous	46,959	125.1	5,872,819	28.4	43,858,108	24.4

[1]Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

TABLE 11.—AVERAGE VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, AND AVERAGE GROSS INCOME PER FARM, WITH PER CENT OF GROSS INCOME ON TOTAL INVESTMENT IN FARM PROPERTY, CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME.

PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME.	AVERAGE VALUES PER FARM OF—					Per cent of gross income on total investment in farm property.
	Farm property, June 1, 1900.				Gross income (products of 1899 not fed to live stock).	
	Land and improvements (except buildings).	Buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.		
The State	$449	$154	$39	$162	$364	45.3
Hay and grain	659	182	45	154	287	27.6
Vegetables	571	295	48	139	293	27.8
Fruit	844	331	65	85	317	23.9
Live stock	603	245	53	242	266	28.3
Dairy produce	443	256	40	209	244	25.8
Tobacco	717	291	65	177	679	54.3
Cotton	400	120	33	143	381	54.8
Rice	481	151	56	202	433	48.3
Sugar	312	145	32	161	249	38.4
Flowers and plants	2,936	3,087	62	40	1,875	30.6
Nursery products	5,674	2,476	284	174	6,008	69.8
Miscellaneous	492	199	49	194	377	40.3

For the several classes of farms the average values per acre of products not fed to live stock are as follows: For farms whose operators derive their principal income from flowers and plants, $449.30; nursery products, $24.78; cotton, $4.84; tobacco, $4.79; vegetables, $4.55; rice,

$3.52; fruit, $3.50; sugar, $3.31; miscellaneous, $3.01; hay and grain, $2.96; dairy produce, $2.88; and live stock, $1.97. In computing these averages the total area of the farms of each group is used, and not the acreage devoted to the crop from which the principal income is derived.

The wide variations shown in the averages and percentages of gross income are largely due to the fact that in computing gross income no deduction is made for expenditures. For florists' establishments, nurseries, and market gardens the average expenditure for such items as labor and fertilizers represents a far larger percentage of the gross income than in the case of "hay and grain," "live-stock," or "miscellaneous" farms. Were it possible to present the average net incomes, the variations shown would be comparatively slight.

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY REPORTED VALUE OF PRODUCTS NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK.

Tables 12 and 13 present data relating to farms classified by the reported value of products not fed to live stock.

TABLE 12.—NUMBER AND ACREAGE OF FARMS, AND VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY, JUNE 1, 1900, CLASSIFIED BY REPORTED VALUE OF PRODUCTS NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK, WITH PERCENTAGES.

VALUE OF PRODUCTS NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK.	Number of farms.	NUMBER OF ACRES IN FARMS.			VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY.	
		Average.	Total.	Per cent.	Total.	Per cent.
The State	223,220	92.7	20,685,427	100.0	$179,399,382	100.0
$0	2,284	56.2	128,376	0.6	970,150	0.5
$1 to $49	9,127	34.1	311,605	1.5	2,473,960	1.4
$50 to $99	15,888	39.4	625,966	3.0	4,869,100	2.7
$100 to $249	72,631	57.5	4,178,299	20.2	33,110,980	18.5
$250 to $499	82,080	90.1	7,389,567	35.7	60,361,222	33.7
$500 to $999	34,245	158.1	5,413,572	26.2	47,898,590	26.7
$1,000 to $2,499	6,265	327.1	2,049,522	9.9	21,592,530	12.0
$2,500 and over	750	784.7	588,520	2.9	8,123,350	4.5

TABLE 13.—AVERAGE VALUES OF SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARM PROPERTY, AND AVERAGE GROSS INCOME PER FARM, WITH PER CENT OF GROSS INCOME ON TOTAL INVESTMENT IN FARM PROPERTY, CLASSIFIED BY REPORTED VALUE OF PRODUCTS NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK.

VALUE OF PRODUCTS NOT FED TO LIVE STOCK.	AVERAGE VALUES PER FARM OF—					Per cent of gross income on total investment in farm property.
	Farm property, June 1, 1900.				Gross income (products of 1899 not fed to live stock).	
	Land and improvements (except buildings).	Buildings.	Implements and machinery.	Live stock.		
The State	$449	$154	$39	$162	$364	45.3
$0	293	63	15	54		
$1 to $49	161	58	9	43	29	10.6
$50 to $99	174	67	11	54	75	24.3
$100 to $249	252	88	20	96	186	40.7
$250 to $499	407	134	35	160	365	49.7
$500 to $999	791	254	71	283	688	49.2
$1,000 to $2,499	1,805	794	189	599	1,445	41.9
$2,500 and over	6,363	2,301	616	1,551	5,021	46.4

Of the 2,284 farms reporting no income for 1899, 438 were operated by their owners, 22 by managers, 899 by cash tenants, and 925 by share tenants. The comparatively high average values of the land and buildings of these farms indicate that a considerable number of them are highly improved country places held for pleasure and not for profit. In the case of many tenant-operated farms, the absence of any reported income is due to the fact that such farms are constantly changing hands, and the farmers in charge, June 1, 1900, were frequently unable to give definite information concerning the products of the preceding year. To this extent the reports fall short of giving a complete exhibit of farm income in 1899.

LIVE STOCK.

At the request of the various live-stock associations of the country, a new classification of domestic animals was adopted for the census of 1900. The age grouping for neat cattle was determined by their present and prospective relations to the dairy industry and the supply of meat products. Horses and mules are classified by age, and neat cattle and sheep by age and sex. The new classification permits a very close comparison with the figures published in previous census reports.

Table 14 presents a summary of live-stock statistics.

TABLE 14.—NUMBER OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS, FOWLS, AND BEES ON FARMS, JUNE 1, 1900, WITH TOTAL AND AVERAGE VALUES, AND NUMBER OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS NOT ON FARMS.

LIVE STOCK.	Age in years.	ON FARMS.			NOT ON FARMS.
		Number.	Value.	Average value.	Number.
Calves	Under 1	213,397	$826,805	$3.87	12,459
Steers	1 and under 2	52,023	355,759	6.84	2,580
Steers	2 and under 3	37,001	361,154	9.76	2,250
Steers	3 and over	40,436	831,167	20.56	4,409
Bulls	1 and over	18,027	205,161	11.38	567
Heifers	1 and under 2	83,027	703,459	8.47	2,918
Cows kept for milk	2 and over	279,263	5,512,940	19.74	22,866
Cows and heifers not kept for milk.	2 and over	76,560	997,111	13.02	1,587
Colts	Under 1	8,724	203,492	23.33	273
Horses	1 and under 2	7,846	299,118	38.12	288
Horses	2 and over	136,073	7,403,511	54.41	18,114
Mule colts	Under 1	4,695	134,232	28.59	57
Mules	1 and under 2	7,853	390,664	49.75	166
Mules	2 and over	179,522	12,579,746	70.07	7,149
Asses and burros	All ages	1,819	134,826	74.12	200
Lambs	Under 1	87,755	104,153	1.19	1,286
Sheep (ewes)	1 and over	157,330	259,428	1.64	3,381
Sheep (rams and wethers).	1 and over	71,468	124,718	1.75	1,737
Swine	All ages	1,423,329	2,887,230	2.03	51,018
Goats	All ages	117,413	94,258	0.80	4,762
Fowls:[1]					
Chickens[2]		4,737,606	1,409,269		
Turkeys		129,326			
Geese		243,657			
Ducks		75,947			
Bees (swarms of)		205,369	287,598	1.40	
Value of all live stock.			36,105,799		

[1] The number reported is of fowls over 3 months old. The value is of all, old and young.
[2] Including Guinea fowls.

The total value of all live stock on farms, June 1, 1900, was $36,105,799, of which 36.7 per cent represents the value of mules, asses, and burros; 21.9 per cent, that of horses; 15.3 per cent, that of dairy cows; 11.8 per cent,

that of other neat cattle; 8.0 per cent, that of swine; 3.9 per cent, that of poultry; and 2.4 per cent, that of all other live stock.

No reports were secured of the value of live stock not on farms, but it is probable that such animals have higher average values than those on farms. Allowing the same averages, however, the total value of the domestic animals not on farms would be $2,327,830. Exclusive of poultry and bees not on farms, the total value of live stock in the state is approximately $38,433,600.

CHANGES IN LIVE STOCK KEPT ON FARMS.

The following table shows the changes since 1850 in the number of the most important domestic animals.

TABLE 15.—NUMBER OF SPECIFIED DOMESTIC ANIMALS ON FARMS: 1850 TO 1900.

YEAR.	Dairy cows.	Other neat cattle.	Horses.	Mules and asses.	Sheep.[1]	Swine.
1900	279,263	520,471	152,643	193,889	229,298	1,423,329
1890	292,088	583,888	121,207	134,800	386,380	1,421,884
1880	271,443	479,747	113,950	121,081	347,538	1,252,462
1870	170,640	316,523	80,770	76,676	241,984	719,757
1860	230,537	542,859	127,063	111,687	370,156	1,748,321
1850	227,791	500,224	128,001	59,895	371,880	1,904,540

[1] Lambs not included.

A comparison between the numbers of the several classes of domestic animals reported in 1890 and in 1900 indicates that an important change has taken place in the general character of the live-stock industry in Alabama. There has been a small decrease in the number of dairy cows, and a very marked decrease in the numbers of other neat cattle and of sheep. Horses, mules, and asses, on the other hand, show great increases, and swine have increased to some extent.

Although the table shows a decrease since 1890 of 4.4 per cent in the number of dairy cows, it is very probable that this decrease is more apparent than real, as the production of milk has increased nearly 73 per cent. It is considered probable that many of the 76,560 "cows and heifers not kept for milk" (see Table 14) were in reality milch cows, dry at the time of enumeration.

The actual decrease in the number of "other neat cattle" is doubtless even greater than that shown in the table. In 1900 the figures for "other neat cattle" include 213,397 calves, while it is not certain that calves were included under this head in previous census reports. If not, there has been, in the last decade, a decrease of nearly one-half in the number of cattle over one year of age raised for meat products. Owing to the rapid settlement of the state, the steady appreciation in the value of farm lands, and the increase in the acreage devoted to crops, the Alabama farmer has partially abandoned stock raising as a source of revenue. It must be borne in mind, however, that the comparatively high market prices of beef and mutton which prevailed for a number of months prior to the date of enumeration, led many farmers to reduce their herds and flocks to an unusual extent.

The rapid development of agriculture since the close of the Civil War is also shown in the steadily increasing number of horses, mules, and asses, their number having doubled since 1870. In the last decade the number of horses increased 25.9 per cent, and the number of mules and asses, 43.8 per cent.

The number of sheep increased steadily between 1870 and 1890, but in the last ten years decreased 40.7 per cent. Swine show a steady increase in number in the last thirty years, but for the decade from 1890 to 1900, the rate of gain was only 0.1 per cent.

ANIMAL PRODUCTS.

Table 16 is a summarized exhibit of the animal products of agriculture.

TABLE 16.—QUANTITIES AND VALUES OF SPECIFIED ANIMAL PRODUCTS, AND VALUES OF POULTRY RAISED, ANIMALS SOLD, AND ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED ON FARMS, IN 1899.

PRODUCTS.	Unit of measure.	Quantity.	Value.
Wool	Pounds	744,274	$150,948
Mohair and goat hair	Pounds	469	140
Milk	Gallons	[1] 95,882,103	
Butter	Pounds	19,121,964	6,610,967
Cheese	Pounds	36,374	
Eggs	Dozens	18,778,960	1,825,978
Poultry			2,263,346
Honey	Pounds	1,930,410	197,232
Wax	Pounds	162,020	
Animals sold			1,958,640
Animals slaughtered			5,189,443
Total			18,196,689

[1] Includes all milk produced.

The value of animal products in 1899 was $18,196,689, or 22.4 per cent of the gross farm income. Of the above amount, 39.3 per cent represents the aggregate value of animals sold alive and of animals slaughtered on farms; 36.3 per cent, that of dairy products; 22.5 per cent, that of poultry and eggs; and 1.9 per cent, that of wool, mohair, honey, and wax.

The production of milk in 1899 was 40,373,416 gallons greater than in 1889, an increase of 72.7 per cent. The quantity of cheese made on farms, though commercially of little importance, increased nearly fivefold, while that of butter increased 31.4 per cent.

Of the $6,610,967 given in Table 16 as the value of all dairy products in 1899, $5,690,113, or 86.1 per cent, represents the value of such products consumed on farms, and $920,854, or 13.9 per cent, the amount realized from sales. Of the latter sum, $389,605 was derived from the sale of 3,087,433 gallons of milk; $515,466, from 2,780,075 pounds of butter; $14,802, from 27,133 gallons of cream; and $981, from 13,481 pounds of cheese.

POULTRY AND EGGS.

Of the 223,220 farmers in the state, 191,383, or 85.7 per cent, reported poultry in 1900.

The total value of the poultry products of 1899 was $4,089,324, of which 55.3 per cent represents the value of poultry raised, and 44.7 per cent, the value of eggs. The average returns per farm were $11.83 from poultry and $9.54 from eggs. In 1879 the production of eggs was 6,761,646 dozens; in 1889, 10,823,526 dozens; and in

1899, 18,778,960 dozens, showing an increase for the last decade of 73.5 per cent.

WOOL.

Although 40.7 per cent fewer sheep are reported in 1900 than in 1890, a decrease of but 3.2 per cent is shown in the production of wool. This is believed to be the result of an improvement in the grade of sheep kept, as the average weight of fleeces has advanced from 2.2 pounds in 1890 to 2.5 pounds in 1900.

HONEY AND WAX.

In 1900, 32,100 farmers reported 205,369 swarms of bees. The quantity of honey reported for 1899 was 5.8 per cent greater than that reported for 1889; and the quantity of wax was 135.2 per cent greater.

HORSES, MULES, AND DAIRY COWS ON SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARMS.

Table 17 presents, for the leading groups of farms, the number of farms reporting horses, mules, and dairy cows, and the average number of these animals per farm. In computing the averages presented, only those farms which report the kind of live stock under consideration are included.

TABLE 17.—HORSES, MULES, AND DAIRY COWS ON SPECIFIED CLASSES OF FARMS, JUNE 1, 1900.

CLASSES.	HORSES.		MULES.		DAIRY COWS.	
	Farms reporting.	Average per farm.	Farms reporting.	Average per farm.	Farms reporting.	Average per farm.
Total	98,680	1.5	120,215	1.6	154,427	1.8
White farmers	69,213	1.6	70,168	1.7	101,744	2.0
Colored farmers	29,467	1.3	50,047	1.4	49,683	1.5
Owners[1]	54,676	1.7	53,161	1.8	79,928	2.1
Managers	527	3.4	551	5.9	651	4.3
Cash tenants	26,588	1.4	40,077	1.5	42,953	1.6
Share tenants	16,889	1.3	26,426	1.3	30,895	1.4
Under 20 acres	8,571	1.2	6,242	1.1	13,321	1.5
20 to 99 acres	52,276	1.3	70,761	1.3	86,409	1.6
100 to 174 acres	20,479	1.6	23,822	1.6	31,857	1.8
175 to 259 acres	7,665	1.9	9,099	2.1	11,421	2.3
260 acres and over	9,689	2.5	10,291	3.2	12,419	3.4
Hay and grain	4,498	1.7	4,422	1.9	5,854	1.7
Vegetable	1,329	1.5	668	1.5	1,199	2.1
Fruit	17	1.8	109	1.6	176	1.8
Live stock	9,716	1.8	3,099	2.3	9,400	2.3
Dairy	4,162	1.7	2,459	1.6	7,504	3.1
Cotton	54,536	1.4	85,298	1.5	89,006	1.6
Sugar	63	1.7	52	1.5	76	2.1
Miscellaneous[2]	24,359	1.7	24,108	1.7	40,612	1.9

[1] Including "part owners" and "owners and tenants."
[2] Including florists' establishments, nurseries, tobacco farms, and rice farms.

In Alabama, as in all states where cotton is a staple crop and much of the farm labor is performed by negroes, large numbers of mules are used as work animals. For most classes of farms the average number of mules exceeds that of horses. If the numbers of horses and mules be combined, the average number of work animals per farm compares favorably with the corresponding figures for the intensively cultivated farms of New England.

CROPS.

The following table gives the statistics of the principal crops of 1899.

TABLE 18.—ACREAGES, QUANTITIES, AND VALUES OF THE PRINCIPAL FARM CROPS IN 1899.

CROPS.	Acres.	Unit of measure.	Quantity.	Value.
Corn	2,743,360	Bushels	35,053,047	$17,082,751
Wheat	128,897	Bushels	628,775	502,240
Oats	216,873	Bushels	1,882,060	797,684
Barley	273	Bushels	2,400	1,582
Rye	1,708	Bushels	11,123	9,075
Buckwheat	10	Bushels	76	50
Flaxseed	1	Bushels	4	4
Grass seed		Bushels	873	1,016
Clover seed		Bushels	3	11
Kafir corn	4	Bushels	90	45
Hay and forage	85,453	Tons	172,908	1,707,638
Tobacco	1,141	Pounds	811,950	55,581
Rice	2,329	Pounds	926,946	30,891
Cotton	3,202,135	Bales	1,106,840	37,004,508
Cottonseed		Tons	534,413	5,065,079
Dry beans	1,801	Bushels	17,865	15,507
Dry pease	91,126	Bushels	665,388	536,703
Potatoes	9,505	Bushels	587,711	324,628
Sweet potatoes	50,865	Bushels	3,457,386	1,637,039
Onions	259	Bushels	28,914	28,848
Miscellaneous vegetables	55,563			2,613,718
Sugar cane	32,871	Tons	[1] 2,751	10,513
Sugar cane kept for seed		Tons	131,484	454,664
Sugar		Pounds	13,765	612
Molasses		Gallons	2,672,438	1,003,211
Sorghum cane	14,881	Tons	[1] 3,145	8,950
Sorghum sirup		Gallons	1,168,868	362,397
Small fruits	903			54,097
Grapes	[2] 2,559	Centals	42,576	[3] 84,861
Orchard fruits	[2] 75,016			[4] 476,574
Tropical fruits				6,013
Nuts				6,315
Forest products				2,494,452
Flowers and plants	53			43,950
Seeds	8			1,510
Nursery products	1,038			131,132
Hops	1	Pounds	440	92
Broom corn	152	Pounds	56,290	2,452
Peanuts	79,011	Bushels	1,021,708	583,223
Miscellaneous				975
Total	6,792,746			78,190,720

[1] Sold as cane.
[2] Estimated from number of vines or trees.
[3] Including value of raisins, wine, etc.
[4] Including value of cider and vinegar.

Of the total value of crops in 1899, cotton contributed 57.5 per cent; corn, 23.3 per cent; other cereals, 1.8 per cent; vegetables, including potatoes, sweet potatoes, and onions, 6.4 per cent; forest products, 3.4 per cent; hay and forage, 2.3 per cent; sugar cane and sorghum cane and their products, 2.5 per cent; fruits and nuts, 0.9 per cent; and all other products, 1.9 per cent.

The acreage devoted to corn was 40.4 per cent of the total area in crops, but yielded only 23.3 per cent of the total receipts. Cotton occupied 47.1 per cent of the total acreage and yielded 57.5 per cent of the total receipts.

The average values per acre of the various crops were as follows: Flowers and plants, $829.25; nursery products, $126.33; onions, $111.38; potatoes, $34.15; sweet potatoes, $33.17; tobacco, $48.71; cotton, including seed, $13.14; rice, $13.26; peanuts, $7.38; orchard fruits, $6.35; cereals, $5.96; and dry pease and dry beans, $5.94. The crops yielding the highest returns were grown upon very highly improved land. Their production required a large amount of labor and large expenditures for fertilizers.

CEREALS.

Table 19 is an exhibit of the changes in cereal production since 1849.

TABLE 19.—ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF CEREALS: 1849 TO 1899.

PART 1.—ACREAGE.

YEAR.[1]	Barley.	Buckwheat.	Corn.	Oats.	Rye.	Wheat.
1899	273	10	2,743,360	216,873	1,708	123,897
1889	200	352	2,127,302	344,788	2,190	39,641
1879	511	42	2,055,929	324,628	5,764	264,971

[1] No statistics of acreage were secured prior to 1879.

PART 2.—BUSHELS PRODUCED.

1899	2,400	76	35,053,047	1,882,060	11,123	628,775
1889	1,996	4,622	30,072,161	3,230,455	14,618	208,591
1879	5,281	363	25,451,278	3,039,659	28,402	1,529,657
1869	5,174	144	16,977,948	770,866	18,977	1,055,068
1859	15,135	1,347	33,226,282	682,179	72,457	1,218,444
1849	8,958	348	28,754,048	2,965,696	17,261	294,044

In 1879 the total area devoted to cereals was 2,651,845 acres; in 1889, 2,514,473 acres; and in 1899, 3,086,121 acres. The gain in the last ten years amounts to 22.7 per cent. The value of all cereals grown represents 20.1 per cent of the total value of farm products.

Corn is by far the most important cereal. In 1899 it was reported by 205,273 farmers, or 92.0 per cent of the total number in the state, and occupied 88.9 per cent of the total area under cereals. The acreage increased 29.0 per cent in the last decade.

Barley and buckwheat are of comparatively little importance. The acreage devoted to oats in 1899 was 37.1 per cent less than that reported ten years before. The decrease shown is believed to be due principally to an unfavorable season in 1899, although the introduction of new forage crops has doubtless led some farmers to abandon the growing of oats for hay. Rye has decreased steadily in both acreage and production since 1879.

The acreage and production of wheat have varied widely from decade to decade, but in 1899 both were more than three times as great as in 1889. Seasonal variations doubtless account in large degree for the great fluctuations shown. The greatest acreage in wheat is in the northeastern counties, Madison, Jackson, Randolph, and Cherokee, each of which reported over 6,000 acres.

The acreage given for cereals does not include 14,723 acres of grain cut green for hay, nor 15,708 acres devoted to corn, nonsaccharine sorghum, and similar crops, grown for forage or ensilage.

RICE.

The area devoted to rice in 1899 was 2,349 acres, an increase of 187.5 per cent over the acreage reported ten years before. While about two-thirds of the counties of the state report the cultivation of rice, over one-half of the product of 1899 was reported by five counties in the extreme southern part of the state: Escambia, Henry, Baldwin, Geneva, and Monroe, ranking in the order named.

COTTON.

The following table is an exhibit of the changes in cotton production since 1849.

TABLE 20.—ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF COTTON: 1849 TO 1899.

YEAR.	ACREAGE.[1]		PRODUCTION.		
	Total.	Per cent of increase.	Commercial bales.	Pounds.	Per cent of increase.
1899	8,202,185	16.0	1,106,840	546,848,659	25.3
1889	2,761,165	18.5	915,210	436,555,170	37.7
1879	2,330,086	----------	699,654	316,913,262	70.0
1869	----------	----------	429,482	186,395,188	[2]57.7
1859	----------	----------	989,955	440,529,975	95.1
1849	----------	----------	564,429	225,771,600	----------

[1] No statistics of acreage were secured prior to 1879.
[2] Decrease.

In 1899, 192,388 farmers, or 86.2 per cent of the total number, reported the production of cotton. It was grown in every county in the state, but in the extreme northwestern and southwestern counties the acreages reported were relatively small. For the state the average acreage devoted to cotton was 62.1 acres per square mile of land surface, and 16.6 acres per farm reporting. The five leading cotton-growing counties, Dallas, Montgomery, Lowndes, Marengo, and Bullock, each had over one hundred thousand acres and reported an average of approximately one hundred and fifty-three acres per square mile, or over one-half of their total improved farm land. In 1879, 36.5 per cent of the improved farm land of the state was devoted to cotton; in 1889, 35.9 per cent; and in 1899, 37.0 per cent. The acreage increased 16.0 per cent in the last decade.

The crop of 1899 was the largest ever reported in a census year, being 25.3 per cent greater than the crop grown ten years before. For the state the average yield per square mile of land surface was 21.5 commercial bales, while in Lowndes, Chambers, Bullock, and Pike counties the average was over fifty bales.

SUGAR CANE AND SORGHUM CANE.

Table 21 presents a comparative exhibit of the acreage of sugar cane, and the production of sugar and sirup, 1849 to 1899.

TABLE 21.—ACREAGE OF SUGAR CANE, AND PRODUCTION OF SUGAR AND SIRUP: 1849 TO 1899.

YEAR.[1]	Acreage in cane.	SUGAR.		SIRUP.	
		Production in pounds.	Average yield per acre in pounds.	Production in gallons.	Average yield per acre in gallons.
1899	32,871	13,765	0.42	2,672,438	81.30
1889	19,415	390,835	20.13	2,333,231	120.18
1879	6,627	112,800	17.02	795,199	119.99
1869	----------	37,200	----------	166,009	----------
1859	----------	210,000	----------	85,115	----------
1849	----------	9,890,400	----------	----------	----------

[1] No statistics of acreage were secured prior to 1879.

As West Indian or ribbon cane and sorghum cane are both grown in Alabama, considerable difficulty was experienced in distinguishing between the reports of the two kinds of sirup. This difficulty was greatly enhanced by the effects of the severe frosts of February, 1899, which extended over the entire sugar-cane belt and destroyed

nearly sixty per cent of the crop. As a result of this frost, the yield of sirup per acre of sugar cane was reduced to approximately that of sorghum cane, while normally it is about double.

Most of the ribbon cane of Alabama is grown south of the thirty-second degree of latitude, and below this line very little sorghum cane is grown for sirup, although considerable quantities are raised for forage. Between the thirty-second and thirty-fourth degrees both ribbon cane and sorghum cane are grown for sirup, and it is in this district that the greatest difficulty has arisen in distinguishing between the products. North of the thirty-fourth parallel practically no ribbon cane is cultivated, as frost generally prevents the crop from maturing.

The manufacture of sirup in Alabama is carried on exclusively by the "open-kettle" process, which produces a very fine quality of sirup, but a low grade of sugar. As a result, the amount of sugar manufactured is comparatively insignificant, while the sirup has come to be of great importance as an article of commerce, the area devoted to ribbon cane in 1899 exceeding that of 1889 by nearly fourteen thousand acres.

The acreage of sorghum cane grown in 1899 was considerably less than that reported ten years before. The average yield per acre, however, was 78.8 gallons, while in 1889 it was but 58.6 gallons. The total value of the sorghum sirup made in 1899 was $362,397.

HAY AND FORAGE.

In 1900, 68,661 farmers, or 30.8 per cent of the total number, reported hay or forage crops. Exclusive of corn stalks and corn strippings, the average yield per acre was 1.2 tons. The acreage in hay and forage in 1899 was more than twice as great as that of ten years before.

In 1899 the acreages and yields of the various kinds of hay and forage were as follows: Wild, salt, and prairie grasses, 3,914 acres and 4,042 tons; millet and Hungarian grasses, 8,364 acres and 10,442 tons; alfalfa or lucern, 272 acres and 343 tons; clover, 1,592 acres and 1,724 tons; other tame and cultivated grasses, 40,880 acres and 46,383 tons; grains cut green for hay, 14,723 acres and 17,104 tons; forage crops, 15,708 acres and 20,023 tons; corn stalks and corn strippings, 469,738 acres and 72,847 tons.

In Table 18 the production of corn stalks and corn strippings is included, but not the acreage, as the forage secured was only an incidental product of the land on which it was grown.

TOBACCO.

The present census shows that in 1899 tobacco was grown by 5,287 farmers, who reported 1,141 acres and a yield of 311,950 pounds; a gain in ten years of 68.0 per cent in acreage, and 92.1 per cent in production. The greatest production ever reported was in 1879, when 2,197 acres yielded 452,426 pounds. The average yield per acre in 1889 was 239 pounds, while in 1899 it was 273 pounds. The total value of the crop in the latter year was $55,581, an average of $10.51 for each farm reporting, and of $48.71 per acre.

ORCHARD FRUITS.

The changes in orchard fruits since 1890 are shown in the following table.

TABLE 22.—ORCHARD TREES AND FRUITS: 1890 AND 1900.

FRUITS.	NUMBER OF TREES.		BUSHELS OF FRUIT.	
	1900.	1890.	1899.	1889.
Apples	2,015,711	780,657	719,175	1,238,734
Apricots	3,541	1,326	115	611
Cherries	44,849	7,204	1,159	1,862
Peaches	2,690,151	1,280,842	184,543	2,431,203
Pears	206,619	80,993	22,656	22,902
Plums and prunes	400,449	144,622	11,876	40,451

Of the 5,387,813 fruit trees reported in 1900, 49.9 per cent were peach trees; 37.4 per cent, apple trees; 7.4 per cent, plum and prune trees; 3.9 per cent, pear trees; and 1.4 per cent, apricot, cherry, and unclassified fruit trees.

Apple trees were reported in all parts of the state, but in the greatest numbers in the northeastern counties. The number reported in 1900 was over two and one-half times as great as in 1890. Peach trees, which more than doubled in number in the last decade, are also generally distributed over the state, the southwestern county of Washington reporting the largest number. A comparison by counties shows a rapid development of fruit growing in the southern part of the state in the last decade.

The quantity of fruit produced in any given year is determined largely by the nature of the season. Comparisons between the crop of 1889 and that of 1899 have little significance, because in the latter year there was an almost complete failure of all fruits.

In addition to the number of trees, given in Table 22, unclassified fruit trees to the number of 26,493 were reported, with a yield of 8,212 bushels of fruit. The value of orchard products, given in Table 18, includes the value of 1,027 barrels of cider, 765 barrels of vinegar, and 61,170 pounds of dried and evaporated fruits.

SMALL FRUITS.

Of the 903 acres devoted to small fruits, 472 acres, or more than half, were reported by Barbour, Butler, Conecuh, Cullman, and Mobile counties, all of which, except Cullman, are situated in the southern part of the state. Counties of the cotton belt generally report small acreages. Strawberries occupied 593 acres, or 65.7 per cent of the total area, and yielded 804,480 quarts. The acreage and production of other berries were as follows: Blackberries and dewberries, 216 acres and 98,500 quarts; raspberries and Logan berries, 24 acres and 14,390 quarts; currants, 6 acres and 2,060 quarts; gooseberries, 4 acres and 1,890 quarts; and other small fruits, 60 acres and 32,250 quarts. These small fruits were grown by 2,313 farmers who derived therefrom an average of $23.39 per farm.

The tropical fruits reported in Table 18 consisted almost entirely of figs. Grapes were grown in 1899 by 18,601 farmers, who obtained 42,576 centals of fruit from 1,527,433 vines. The value of the grapes, including the value of 32,666 gallons of wine made on farms, was $84,861.

VEGETABLES.

The total value of vegetables grown in 1899, including potatoes, sweet potatoes, and onions, was $4,654,233, of which 36.2 per cent represents the value of sweet potatoes; 7.0 per cent, that of potatoes; 0.6 per cent, that of onions; and 56.2 per cent, that of miscellaneous vegetables.

Sweet potatoes were grown in 1899 by 87,134 farmers, or 39.0 per cent of the total number in the state. The area devoted to this crop in 1889 was 56,650 acres, and in 1899, 50,865 acres, a loss of 10.2 per cent. They are grown most extensively in the counties of the cotton belt.

In the growing of miscellaneous vegetables, 55,563 acres were used. The products of 45,543 acres of this area were not reported in detail. Of the remaining 10,020 acres, 7,142 acres were devoted to watermelons; 1,258 acres, to cabbages; 631 acres, to muskmelons; 271 acres, to tomatoes; 194 acres, to sweet corn; 185 acres, to beans; 160 acres, to cucumbers; and 179 acres, to other vegetables.

PEANUTS.

The growing of peanuts is rapidly becoming an important branch of agriculture in Alabama. In 1899 the area devoted to their production by the 23,689 farmers reporting this crop was 79,011 acres, or more than three times the acreage grown in 1889. Over one-half of the total acreage was reported by the extreme southeastern counties of Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, and Pike. The total value of the crop was $583,223.

FLORICULTURE.

In 1900, 45 farms reported florists' products valued at $43,950. Omitting from consideration the 22 farms on which flowers were raised incidentally only, there were 23 commercial florists' establishments in the state. They reported products valued at $43,133, comprising flowers and foliage plants valued at $39,328, and other products worth $3,805. The land and buildings of these florists were valued at $138,527, implements at $1,430, and live stock at $920. The fertilizers used cost $1,370, and the total expenditure for labor amounted to $6,770. In growing the products reported, 125,979 square feet of land under glass were used.

NURSERIES.

Nursery products valued at $131,132 were reported by 56 farmers. The operators of the 22 commercial nursery establishments in the state reported products valued at $132,170, comprising nursery stock valued at $125,717 and other products worth $6,453. The capital invested in land and buildings was $179,300; in implements and machinery, $6,250; and in live stock, $3,837. The expenditure for fertilizers was $2,186, and that for labor, $30,373. These establishments used 5,333 acres of land and their average income per acre was $24.78.

LABOR AND FERTILIZERS.

The total expenditure for labor on farms in 1899, including the value of board furnished, was $4,314,460, an average of $19 per farm. The average was highest on the most intensively cultivated farms, being $1,381 for nurseries, $294 for florists' establishments, $65 for tobacco farms, $38 for rice farms, $31 for fruit farms, $28 for vegetable farms, $22 for cotton farms, $16 for hay and grain farms, $15 for live-stock farms, $14 for dairy farms, and $10 for sugar farms. "Managers" expended, on an average, $218; "owners," $27; "cash tenants," $16; and "share tenants," $8.

Fertilizers purchased in 1899 cost $2,599,290, an average of $12 per farm, but an increase since 1890 of only 7.3 per cent. The average expenditure was greatest for nurseries, amounting to $99. For florists' establishments it was $60; for vegetable farms, $32; for tobacco farms, $29; for rice and sugar farms, $14; for cotton farms, $12; for fruit farms, $8; for live-stock farms, $7; and for hay and grain and dairy farms, $6.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation does not, as yet, occupy a very important place in the agricultural development of Alabama. But with the increase in acreage devoted to the growing of early vegetables for northern markets, its practice will doubtless become more general, as it affords an insurance against the short but destructive periods of drought which frequently occur in the spring. In 1899, 89 acres were irrigated. The products, principally vegetables, were valued at $10,758, or $121 per acre. The cost of constructing the wells, pumps, tiling, and ditches now in use is estimated to have been $5,200.